discussed at the third meeting of the National Capital Region Planning Board held on 4th July, 1986, at New Delhi; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No decision has been taken in the matter. The meeting was inconclusive.

589. (*Transferred to the 31st August, 1986*).

Removal of encroachments in Thyagraj Nagar, New Delhi

590. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unauthorised encroachments on the land allotted for construction of Community Centre/Barat Ghar in Thyagraj Nagar (Prem Nagar, New Delhi-3) are causing delay in the construction of the Community Centre there; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove the unauthorised encroachments and by what time these encroachments are likely to be removed and construction work commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Unauthorised encroachment exists at the site earmarked for construction of community Centre.

(b) Efforts are being made to get the encroachments removed. As soon as the encroachments are removed action will be initiated for construction of Community Centre.

Growth of agricultural production

591. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate in percentage of agricultural production from 1983-84 to 1985-86 year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the average annual rate of growth of agricultural production during the period 1983-84 to 1985-86;

(c) the yield per hectare of foodgrains from 1983-84 to 1985-86 State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) what is the average yield per hectare of foodgrains in the country from 1983-84 to 1985-86 year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The growth rate in agricultural production is generally measured by the changes in the index of agricultural production. These indices for different States are not comparable due to adoption of different 'base periods' and 'weighting diagrams' by the States. Nevertheless, at all-India level, the growth rates in agricultural production as measured by the All India index of agricultural production with the triennium ending 1969-70 as the base, are given below:

Year	Percentage change over the preceding year
1983-84	+13.7
1984-85	0.9
1985-86 (Anticipated)	1.0 to 1.5

(c) and (d) A statement giving per hectare yield of foodgrains, State-wise and all-India, during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 is enclosed. Estimates for 1985-86 have not yet become available from all the States.

Statement

Yield per hectare of total Foodgrains

(Kgs)

State	1983-84	1984-85
Andhra Pradesh	1289	1209
Assam	1054	1013
Bihar	1076	1110
Gujarat	1159	1109
Haryana	1656	1722
Himachal Pradesh	1235	1165
Jammu & Kashmir	1294	1466
Karnataka	955	940
Kerala	1586	1628
Madhya Pradesh	851	735
Maharashtra	753	688
Orissa	1022	931
Punjab	2841	3006
Rajasthan	761	684
Tamil Nadu	1311	1437
Uttar Pradesh	1421	1452
West Bengal	1478	1538
All India	1162	1154

Desertification in Rajasthan

592. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(d) whether it is a fact that Rajasthan desert is spreading at an alarming rate; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to arrest the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): (a) and (b) The results of the integrated research conducted by the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur and the analysis of satellite imageries do not support the view that the Rajasthan desert is advancing at an alarming rate.

The Government of India have, however, taken several steps to control desertification. A Desert Development Programme is under implementation in 5 States including 11 districts of Rajasthan which aims at integrated area development on a mini or micro watershed basis for restoration of ecological balance and optional development of land, water, livestock and human resources to mitigate the effects of drought and reduce fluctuations in income by adoption of appropriate land use practices and through infrastructure develop-